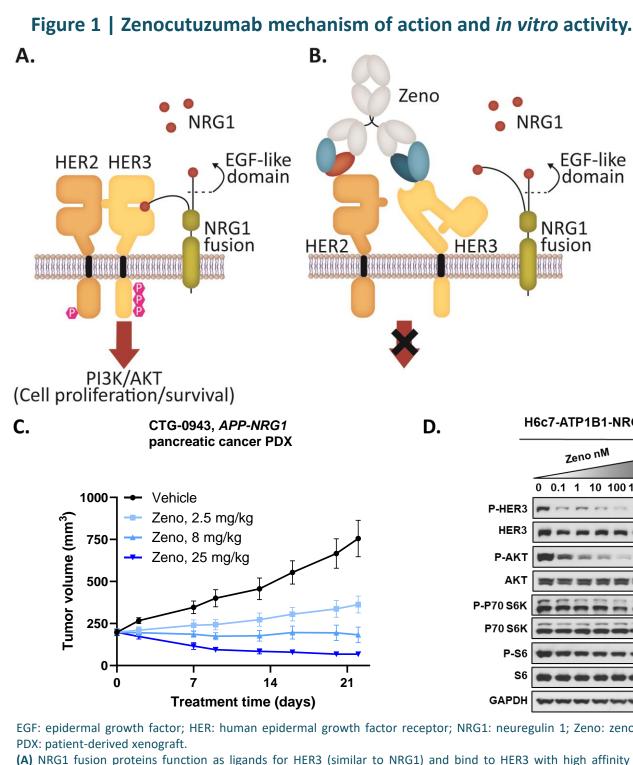
POSTER **1618P**

Durable efficacy of zenocutuzumab, a HER2 × HER3 bispecific antibody, in advanced NRG1 fusion-positive (NRG1+) pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC)

Alison M. Schram,¹ Teresa Macarulla,² James M. Cleary,^{3,4} Cindy Neuzillet,⁵ Dirk Arnold,⁶ Kim A. Reiss,⁷ Tanios Bekaii-Saab,⁸ Jordi Rodon,⁹ Koichi Goto,¹⁰ Sun Young Rha,¹¹ Michaël Duruisseaux,¹² Natasha Leighl,¹³ Benjamin A. Weinberg,¹⁴ Mohammed Najeeb Al Hallak,¹⁵ Andrew K. Joe,¹⁶ Shola Adeyemi,¹⁶ Ernesto Wasserman,¹⁶ Kees-Jan Koeman,¹⁶ Alexander E. Drilon,¹⁷ Eileen M. O'Reilly¹ ¹Department of Medicine, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA; ²Vall d'Hebrón University Hospital, Vall d'Hebrón Institute, Versailles-Saint Quentin University, Saint-Cloud, France; ⁶Asklepios Tumorzentrum Hamburg, Asklepios Klinik Altona, Hamburg, Germany; ¹Denartment, Curie Institute, Boston, MA, USA; ⁴Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, U 'Abramson Cancer Center, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA; ⁹The University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹²Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Louis Pradel Hospital, Norei University, Pase Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹²Department of Respiratory Medicine, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Yonsei University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA; ⁹The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA; ¹⁰National Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA; ¹⁰National Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹²Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Louis Pradel Hospital, and Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹²Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Louis Pradel Hospital, and Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹²Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Louis Pradel Hospital, and Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹²Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Louis Pradel Hospital, and Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹²Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Louis Pradel Hospital, and Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹²Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Louis Phase, Louis Phase, Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹³Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Louis Phase, Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹⁴Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹⁴Department of Respiratory Medicine and Early Phase, Cancer Center, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; ¹⁴Department of Respiratory Medicine and Cancer Center, Yonsei Unive ices Civils de Lyon Cancer Institute, Cancer Research Centre of Lyon, UMR INSERM 1052 CNRS 5286; Claude Bernard University of Lyon, Lyon, France; ¹³Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, Toronto, ON, Canada; ¹⁴Department of Hematology and Oncology, Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, MI, USA; ⁶Merus N.V., Utrecht, The Netherlands; ¹⁷Thoracic Oncology Service, Division of Solid Tumor Oncology, Department of Medicine, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY, USA.

INTRODUCTION

- Neuregulin 1 (NRG1) is a ligand that binds to human epidermal growth factor receptor (HER) 3, and promotes HER2/HER3 heterodimerization and oncogenesis, leading to tumor growth.^{1,2}
- Chromosomal rearrangements (fusions) involving NRG1 are rare oncogenic drivers in a broad range of solid tumors, including pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC).^{3,4} NRG1 fusions are optimally detected with the use of RNA-based next-generation sequencing.⁵
- There are no approved therapies specific for NRG1 fusionpositive (NRG1+) cancer; patients are treated according to standard of care for the underlying tumor type. Patients with advanced or metastatic NRG1+ PDAC that has progressed after standard therapy have a poor prognosis and limited therapeutic options.⁶⁻⁸
- Zenocutuzumab (MCLA-128) is a bispecific antibody that binds to the extracellular domains of HER2 and HER3 (Figure 1).⁹
- Zenocutuzumab demonstrated efficacy in *in vivo* and *in vitro* NRG1+ cancer models across histologies.¹⁰
- Anticancer activity is due to blocking NRG1:HER3 binding and HER2:HER3 dimerization, resulting in suppression of tumor cell proliferation and survival through the PI3K-AKT-mTOR oncogenic signaling pathway.^{9,10}
- In vitro, zenocutuzumab mediates antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity, eliminating tumor cells.^{9,10}
- Zenocutuzumab was recently granted Breakthrough Therapy Designations for NRG1+ NSCLC and NRG1+ pancreatic cancer.
- Efficacy and safety of zenocutuzumab are being evaluated in patients with advanced NRG1+ cancer in the ongoing, pivotal, phase 2 eNRGy trial and early access program (EAP). Data are presented for patients with NRG1+ PDAC; data for patients with NRG1+ non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) were presented in a Mini Oral Session (Presentation No. 1315MO).



(A) NRG1 fusion proteins function as ligands for HER3 (similar to NRG1) and bind to HER3 with high affinity to promote HER2/HER3 dimerization and downstream signaling. (B) Zenocutuzumab inhibits the NRG1/HER3 interaction via a "Dock & Block[®]" mechanism, where 1 arm of the antibody binds to the HER2 receptor, optimally positioning the anti-HER3 arm to block the ligand/receptor interaction and prevent HER2/HER3 dimerization. (C) NRG1+ pancreatic cancer PDX models treated with zenocutuzumab show inhibition of tumor growth and (D) inhibition of phosphorylation of HER3 and AKT. Figure 1A and 1B adapted from Geuijen CAW, et al. *Cancer Cell*. 2018;33(5):922-936. Figure 1C and 1D adapted from Schram AM. et al. Cancer Discov. 2022:12(5):1233-1247

TRIAL DESIGN AND OBJECTIVES

- The eNRGy trial (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02912949) is an ongoing, phase 1/2, global, open-label, multicenter trial in adult patients with advanced or metastatic NRG1+ solid tumors, including NRG1+ PDAC (Figure 2).
- A concurrent EAP (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT04100694) is ongoing and is aligned with the eNRGy trial for eligibility criteria, zenocutuzumab
- treatment, and efficacy and safety assessment.

Figure 2 | 7enocutuzumah NRG1+ cancer development program

Ongoing phase 1/2 global, open-label clinical trial (eNRGy) + EAP NSCLC, PDAC, and other NRG1+ solid tumors	 Inclusion Criteria Locally advanced unresectable or metastatic solid tumor NRG1+ cancer Previously treated with or unable to receive standard therapy ≥ 18 years of age ECOG PS ≤ 2 	Treatment Plan • Zenocutuzumab 750 mg IV Q2W until PD • Tumor assessment Q8W	Folic Survival fo to 2	
Endpoints and Population		Enrollment and Analysis		
Primary endpoint ORR ^a using RECIST v1.1 per investigator assessment		Data cutoff datePrimary analysis population31 July 202333 patients with NRG1+ PDAC		
Secondary endpoints DOR, ^b ORR per central review, and safety ^c		Enrollment 44 patients with NRG1+ PDAC	38 patients received first treatme February 2023 allowing for ≥ 24 v	
Primary analysis population ≥ 1 dose of zenocutuzumab, opportunity for ≥ 24 weeks follow-up at the data cutoff date, documented NRG1 fusion by local tissue-based next-generation sequencing with predicted functionality, absence of other known driver mutations, completed a baseline tumor assessment within planned window, ≥ 1 postbaseline response assessment or early discontinuation due to disease progression, no exposure to prior anti-HER3 targeting antibodies		 39 patients from the eNRGy trial 5 patients from the EAP 	 up; of them, 5 patients were exclusive exclusions 2 patients with other genetic of mutations 1 patient with prior anti-HER3 1 patient with a nonfunctional fusion 1 patient with a baseline scan before the first dose 	
AE: adverse event; CR: complete response; CTCAE: Commo	on Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events; DOR: duration o	f response; EAP: early access program; ECOG PS: Eastern Cc	ooperative Oncology Group performance st	

epidermal growth factor receptor; IV: intravenous; MedDRA: Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities; NRG1: neuregulin 1; NSCLC: non-small cell lung cancer; ORR: overall response rate; PD: progressive disease; PDAC: pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma; PR: partial response; Q2W: every 2 weeks; Q8W: every 8 weeks; RECIST: Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors. ^a Defined as the proportion of patients with a best confirmed response of CR or PR per RECIST v1.1 ^b Defined as the time from the date of first CR or PR to the date of first PD or death due to trial indication

^c AEs were coded using MedDRA v25.0 and graded using CTCAE v4.03. ^d Per the statistical analysis plan

Presented at the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Congress; 20-24 October 2023; Madrid, Spain.

NRG1+ PDAC PATIENTS

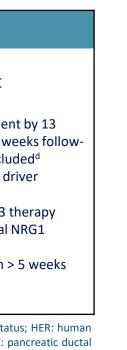
- EGF-like)domain
- NRG1

H6c7-ATP1B1-NRG1

Zeno nM
1 10 100 1000
; Zeno: zenocutu

uzumab;





• As of the data cutoff date of 31 July 2023, 33 of the 44 patients treated with zenocutuzumab were included in the primary efficacy population.

- Patient demographic and disease characteristics are shown in **Table 1**.
- Median age was 49 years (range, 21–72).
- All patients had metastatic disease with liver involvement.
- All tumors were *KRAS* wild-type.
- The most frequently detected fusion partner was ATP1B1 (55%).
- Patients had a median of 2 prior systemic therapies (range, 0–5); 97% of patients had received prior FOLFIRINOX (53%) and/or gemcitabine/taxane-based therapy (78%).
- Median duration of exposure was 9.4 months (range, 1–34).
- Six (18%) patients remained on therapy at the data cutoff date. Among patients who had discontinued therapy, most (22/33 patients [67%]) had discontinued due to disease progression (radiological or clinical), including 2 patients who died. No patient withdrew due to an adverse event.

Table 1 | Demographic and baseline disease characteristics (efficacy population).

Characteristic		
Age in years, median (range)		
Gender, male / female, n (%		
Race, White / Asian / Other,		
ECOG PS, 0 / 1 / 2 / 3, ^b n (%)		
KRAS wild-type, n (%)		
Prior lines of systemic therap		
Number of metastatic diseas		
Metastatic disease site, liver		
NRG1 fusion partner, n (%)		
ATP1B1		
SLC4A4 / CD44 / NOTCH2		

ANTI-TUMOR ACTIVITY IN NRG1+ PDAC

- The confirmed overall response rate (ORR) was 42.4% (95% CI, 25.5–60.8) by Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (RECIST) v1.1 per investigator assessment: 1 (3%) patient achieved a complete response, and 13 (39%) patients achieved a partial response (Figure 3).
- 15 (45%) patients had stable disease (**Figure 3**).
- Treatment is ongoing in 2 of 14 responders (14%; **Figure 4**).
- 27 of 33 patients (82%) experienced tumor reduction (Figure 3), and the clinical benefit rate was 72.7% (95% CI, 54-87).
- The median duration of response (DOR) was 9.1 months (95% CI, 5.5–12.0) by RECIST v1.1 per investigator assessment. - Kaplan–Meier estimate of the 6-month DOR rate was 71% (95% CI, 41–88; Figure 5).
- Of 27 evaluable patients, 21 (78%) showed a \geq 50% decrease in CA 19-9 values from baseline (**Figure 6**).

Figure 3 | Best percent change in sum of target lesion diameter from baseline.^a

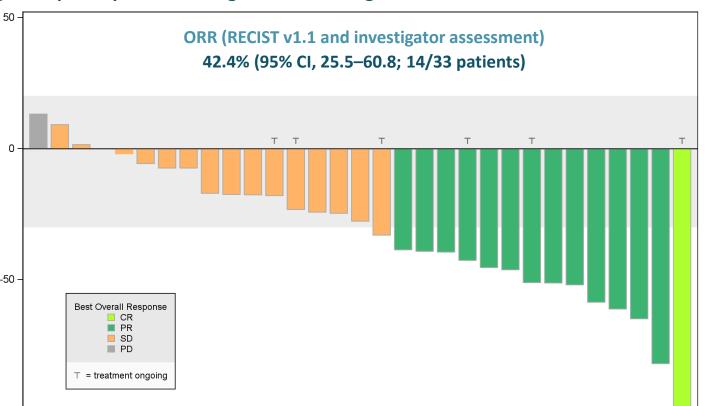
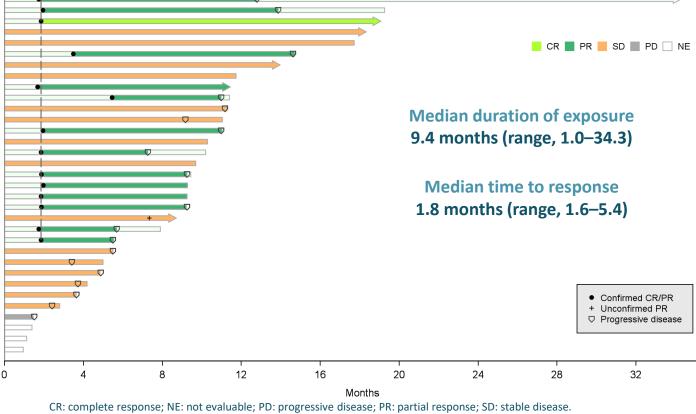


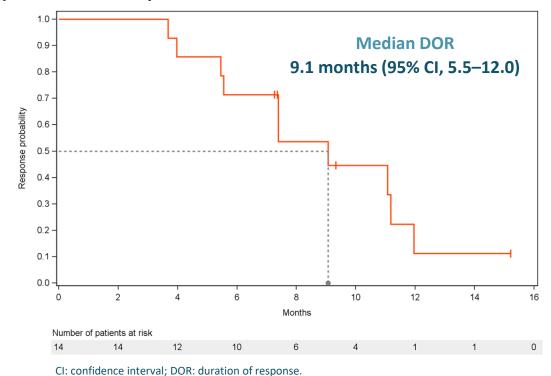
Figure 4 | Time to response and time on therapy.^a



CI: confidence interval; CR: complete response; ORR: overall response rate; PD: progressive disease; PR: partial response; RECIST: Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors; SD: stable disease ^a Excludes 2 patients without a post baseline tumor assessment

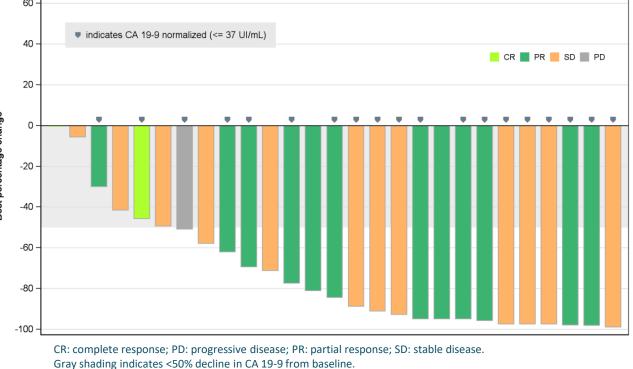


"T" indicates treatment is ongoing at the data cutoff date.

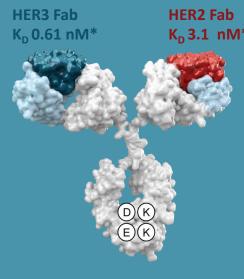


^a Time on therapy is defined as treatment duration plus 2 weeks (with possible limitation from data cutoff date or death). Arrows indicate treatment is ongoing at the data cutoff date.





ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02912949



SAFETY PROFILE

- Overall, a low incidence of grade 3 or 4 related treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs) was observed among all 189 NRG1+ cancer patients who received zenocutuzumab 750 mg Q2W monotherapy (**Table 2**).
- No patient discontinued zenocutuzumab due to related TEAEs.
- Infusion-related reactions^b occurred in 23 of 189 (12%) patients, with no grade 3 or greater events.

Table 2 | Safety profile in NRG1+ cancer patients (N = 189).^a

	Related TEAEs (≥10% and all Grades 3-4) n (%)		TEAEs irrespective c (≥10%) n (%)	
	All grades	Grades 3-4	All grades	
≥1 TEAE	115 (61)	11 (6)	166 (88)	
Diarrhea	33 (17)	3 (2)	53 (28)	
Infusion-related reactions ^b	23 (12)	0	23 (12)	
Fatigue	18 (10)	0	30 (16)	
Nausea	16 (8)	2 (1)	30 (16)	
Vomiting	11 (6)	1 (1)	21 (11)	
Anemia	7 (4)	1 (1)	29 (15)	
Constipation	5 (3)	0	24 (13)	
ALT increased	5 (3)	1 (1)	18 (10)	
AST increased	5 (3)	2 (1)	14 (7)	
Decreased appetite	5 (3)	1 (1)	16 (8)	
Abdominal pain	3 (2)	1 (1)	21 (11)	
Dyspnea	2 (1)	0	24 (13)	
GGT increased	2 (1)	1 (1)	13 (6)	
Platelet count decreased	2 (1)	1 (1)	4 (2)	
Hyperuricemia	2 (1)	1 (1)	3 (2)	
Bacteremia	1 (1)	1 (1)	2 (1)	
Hypertransaminasemia	1 (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	

ALT: alanine aminotransferase; AST: aspartate aminotransferase; EAP: early access program; GGT: gamma-glutamyltransferase; IV: intravenous; NRG1: neuregulin 1; PDAC: pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma; Q2W: every 2 weeks; TEAE: treatment-emergent adverse event

^a Includes all patients with NRG1+ cancer treated with zenocutuzumab 750 mg IV Q2W in the eNRGy trial or EAP, including 44 patients within 24 hours of infusion start.

CONCLUSIONS

- In this updated analysis, zenocutuzumab continues to demonstrate an unprecedented response rate, with robust durability in patients with previously treated metastatic NRG1+ PDAC.
- ORR 42.4% (95% CI, 25.5–60.8; N = 33).
- Median DOR 9.1 months (95% Cl, 5.5–12.0).
- 27 of 33 patients (82%) with NRG1+ PDAC treated with zenocutuzumab experienced tumor reduction.
- Zenocutuzumab demonstrated an extremely well tolerated safety profile, with only 6% of patients experiencing related grade 3-4 toxicities.
- Zenocutuzumab offers a potential new standard of care for patients with NRG1+ PDAC, a biomarker-driven rare entity with a significant unmet medical need.

References

- 1. Werr L, et al. *Mol Cancer Ther*. 2022;21(5):821-830. 2. Fernandez-Cuesta L, et al. Cancer Discov. 2014;4(4):415-422.
- Jonna S, et al. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2019;25(16):4966-4972.
- 4. Schram AM, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2019;37(15 suppl):3129. Benayed R, et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2019;25(15):4712-4722.
- 5. Jones MR, et al. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2019;25(15):4674-4681.
- Heining C, et al. *Cancer Discov*. 2018;8(9):1087-1095.
- 8. Thavaneswaran S, et al. JCO Precis Oncol. 2022;6:e2200263. 9. Geuijen CAW, et al. *Cancer Cell*. 2018;33(5):922-936.
- 10. Schram AM, et al. Cancer Discov. 2022;12(5):1233-1247.

Presenting Author Disclosures

AMS served on advisory boards for Relay Therapeutics, Mersana, and Merus N.V.; consulted for Blueprint Medicines and Flagship Pioneering; served on steering committees for Merus N.V. and Pfizer; received research funding (paid to the institution) from AstraZeneca, ArQule, BeiGene/SpringWorks, Black Diamond Therapeutics, Elevation Oncology, Kura, Lilly, Merus N.V., Northern Biologics, Pfizer, PMV Pharma, Relay Therapeutics, Repare Therapeutics, Revolution Medicines, and Surface Oncology; received food and beverage from PUMA and Repare Therapeutics; and acknowledges ASCO Conquer Cancer Foundation CDA, NCI P30CA008748 CCITLA, Cycle for Survival, and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Support Grant (P30 CA008748).

Copies of this poster obtained through QR (Quick Response) and/or text key codes are for personal use only and may not be reproduced without written permission of the authors.

N = 33 49 (21–72) 18 (55) / 15 (45) 28 (85) / 2 (6) / 3 (9) 18 (55) / 14 (42) / 0 / 1 (3) 33 (100) 2 (0–5) py, median (range)

	. ,
Number of metastatic disease sites, median (range)	2 (1–8)
Metastatic disease site, liver / lung, n (%)	33 (100) / 10 (30)
NRG1 fusion partner, n (%)	
ATP1B1	18 (55)
SLC4A4 / CD44 / NOTCH2	3 (9) each ^c
AGRN / APP / CDH1 / SDC4 / THBS1 / VTCN1	1 (3) each ^c

EAP, early access program; ECOG PS: Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; NRG1: neuregulin 1; PS, performance status. ^a Black or African American (n = 1), unknown (n = 1), missing (n = 1); ^b The patient with an ECOG PS of 3 had symptomatic ascites was enrolled in the EAP with the expectation of potential improved PS with treatment; ^c Value applies to each fusion partner listed in the row.

Figure 6 | Best percent change in CA 19-9 from baseline.

Contact information: Dr. Ernesto Wasserman (Merus N.V.), e.wasserman@merus.nl

Acknowledgments

We thank the patients who participated in the eNRGy trial or EAP and their families; trial coinvestigators, research nurses, and coordinators at each clinical site and Viktoriya Stalbovskaya, Jim Ford, Shekeab Jauhari, and Maria Diviney (Merus N.V.). Medical writing support was provided by Alex Pilote, PhD, of Lumanity Communications Inc., and was funded by Merus N.V.

Funding

Grades 3-4 66 (35) 4 (2) 0 4 (2) 3 (2) 1 (1) 7 (4) 0 5 (3) 5 (3) 2 (1) 4 (2) 6 (3) 6 (3) 1 (1) 1 (1) 2 (1) 1 (1) The eNRGy trial was sponsored by Merus N.V.